





The following is a translation from an ancient Persian poem, which is the first of a series of poems in the Persian language, except the Odes of Zoroaster.

Oh! let me in the shadowy land,  
As in the land of the dead,  
I like its gloomy gloom,  
And all its gloomy gloom,  
Come stealing on.

And while we eye the rolling tide,  
Down which our floating minutes glide,  
Away we go!  
Let us not then, as we pass,  
Down such a river dream a joy  
Already past.

Let us not then, as we pass,  
Down such a river dream a joy  
Already past.  
No longer let us hope to find  
The golden dream of youth again,  
Like those that passed so bright,  
Like those that passed so bright.

For lives like flowing streams must be,  
That into one engulfing sea,  
Are doomed to fall—  
The sea of death, where waves roll on,  
Overlaid and hushed, crown and throne,  
And all its glory gone.

Alas the river's lovely tide,  
Alas the river's lovely tide,  
Alas the river's lovely tide,  
Alas the river's lovely tide,  
Alas the river's lovely tide,  
Alas the river's lovely tide,

Our birth is but a starting place;  
Life is the running of the race;  
And death is but a resting place;  
There all those glittering toys are brought,  
That path leads to all unthought,  
Is found of all.

Say then how poor and little worth  
Are all those glittering toys of earth,  
That here we have!  
Thence of a sleep that death must break,  
Alas! before it bids us wake,  
Ye disappear!

Long ere the lamp of death can light,  
The cheek's pure glow of red and white  
Has passed away;  
Youth smiles, and it was heavenly fair,  
Age came and laid its finger there,  
And where are they?

Where is the strength that quivered dead,  
The step that rolled as light and gay,  
The heart's blithe tone?  
The strength is gone, the step is slow,  
And joy grows wearisome and so  
When age comes on.

#### LETTER FROM A NEW FRIEND.

To the Editors of the Saturday Evening Post.  
I do not come from the Moon, nor Russia,  
nor New York; but I am a plain farmer,  
coming now and then from my farm to pay  
a visit to my friends in Philadelphia. I was  
very much astonished to see not long ago,  
two columns of scurrilous, nonsense and abuse  
in the Evening Post, about a paltry book,  
which I had just sent to my children in the  
country. As I thought that your  
paper was not allowed to be a vehicle for  
personalities and vituperation, I was a little  
surprised, for my friend Zoroaster, whom I  
know to be a very sensible and inoffensive  
fellow, and quite different from what your  
own review of B. O. takes him to be. So I called  
on him, and we happened to have the  
following conversation: which in justice to  
him, I send you for publication, as it may open  
the eyes of B. O. if he has any.

MYSTER.—Well, friend Zoroaster, your  
review has given great offence, it appears,  
and has been answered by the very polite  
terms of lambing, fudge, malicious abolition,  
stern impudence, twice added gull, and  
so forth.

Zoroaster.—I did not expect such a con-  
struction of my harmless review; but B. O.  
must have got into a passion, although he ad-  
vises to keep cool, when irritated and quar-  
relsome folks are in a passion, they are liable  
to forget propriety and decency.

M.—But really had you any ill will against  
the author when you made the remarks in  
your review?

Z.—Not in the least—I do not even know  
him except by name, but I happen to know  
Natural History better than he does. I was  
requested to review his American Natural  
History; I would not do it at first because I  
forewarn that by giving a correct and impartial  
account, I might offend a man whom I had  
been told is irritable and passionate—I envy  
him not in the least the laurels which his  
claims.

M.—Why then did you undertake it?

Z.—Because it was invited upon by a friend  
of mine, and I yielded. But although I con-  
sidered the work as an attempt at book mak-  
ing, and had heard three good judges pro-  
nounce it a nursery book, I gave the most fa-  
vorable account that I could honestly do—  
Did I not praise the Printer, Engraver, and  
Publisher? Did I not throw most of the blame  
on the draughtsman, while I spared the author?  
Let me have felt his sore, since he or  
some satellites of it, could find no better re-  
ply to my remarks, than a torrent of abuse  
against me, and against two individuals,  
whom he wishes to identify with myself,  
although he has misread his mark and shot at  
random.

M.—I know that; but pray is it true that  
only two Naturalists are omitted to be named  
in B. O. since the book has omitted a dozen,  
but as two of some standing are wilfully om-  
itted, he presumes that no one else could find  
the defects of the book, and he tells as many  
fictions as he can on him, in order to deceive  
the public. What a fine trick to make re-  
personal attacks on supposed reviewers?

Z.—This any one who can judge or give a candid  
opinion of a new book, will become liable to  
detestation, in order to excuse the work.

M.—Do you know who is B. O.?

Z.—No—but some friend of the offended  
author, I suppose.

M.—I can tell you—I know him by his style  
and abusive language: he must be a Butcher  
by trade, called Bernard B. O. Vandergrift,  
who carries dogs, cats and human beings; always  
carries his carving knife along, and quarrels  
with every body in his way.

Z.—He must be a dangerous fellow and a  
very unbecoming being; but I care not, as long  
as I can prove whatever I say. I am sorry,  
however, to be involved in a quarrel or even  
unpleasant discussion with any one. I am  
used to amicable debate on all subjects of  
science. Any attempt to render science, a  
field of battle is a great evil and serious in-  
jury.

M.—This is the fashion now-a-days, and our  
literary or scientific societies are converted  
into arenas, where the members like so many  
gladiators, are taught to fight against each  
other. A whole band is not even ashamed to  
attack sometimes a single individual if he will  
not fight!

Z.—You tell me strange things—I was not  
aware of this.

M.—It is a fact: you will find it out if you  
do not side with them in every thing. But  
let us come to the point. Show me how the  
monsters of the book are made to make  
statements of the book, as you state?

Z.—Here they are—and here are the simi-  
lar phrases of B. O. and also the Dictionary  
of Natural History, which could have been  
copied; but something new and wonderful  
was to be done, and here is the result. New  
animals are discovered against, and we have  
been a dozen of new fictitious animals, such  
as never existed. A Bink with a long tail like  
a cat, while the true Bink has a shorter one,  
and a white breast band. Here is a brown  
Bear with a sword under the chin. And here  
is a Wolf with rufous around the neck, or  
else a sheep more like a Lion: and so on.

M.—It is indeed—This is the reason that  
B. O. has nothing to say for them. I confess  
I never saw any Bink, Fox, and Skunk,  
like those in the book.

Z.—It is easier to write nonsense and call  
it science, than to make an accurate book  
of Natural History, or to direct ignorant paint-  
ers, when you are as ignorant as them. But  
in the act of book-making this is of little con-  
sequence: a fine appearance, a few puffs by  
A. B. C. will carry one through; while a work  
of deep research, long travels, accurate ob-  
servations, may be neglected.

M.—Yes, thus B. O. has well paid the  
book, by telling us, how well it sells, and will  
sell in 100 years hence!

Z.—Just so: this follows of course—only  
tell that a book sells, whether true or not,  
and it will help the sale. This discussion  
may even help it by causing an enquiry into  
the facts stated. And the author may thank  
me one day, when he is out of passion, for  
having noticed his book, which was thought  
unworthy of notice by many. There is noth-  
ing more dreaded by a book maker than con-  
tempt. I regret now that I did not  
make that respectful way—I have not slept less  
soundly for all that.

M.—You are accused of not giving explicit  
details.

Z.—I was only to give a sketch at first.—  
I meant in a subsequent number to have come  
to details, and even given credit for some  
tolerable passages; but now they may sleep  
in peace, along with the stories of the far  
famed Munchausen and Pontopidan. By com-  
paring the book to Goldsmith and Bewick  
I did not much honor it. It is more like (by  
its fiction) the works printed 200 years ago,  
before Natural History was a science.—  
In fact it appears that it is meant to make it  
go back, or rather change the science into  
book making.

M.—Don't you think the title was presumptu-  
ous?

Z.—Certainly. It ought to have been called  
a Sketch of the Quadrupeds of the United  
States and the North Pole. It has no preten-  
sion to an American Natural History, unless  
the United States be the whole Continent.  
Hence, Birds, Fishes, Snakes, Plants and  
Minerals are all included in Natural History,  
yet they are not to be introduced here. A  
false title is a bad one.

M.—Farwell—I am satisfied that B. O.  
wanted to puff the book under the shape of a  
reply. Your criticism was fair and not too  
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Pennsylvania, in the course of the twenty  
years immediately preceding the American  
revolution. This letter is important in the  
investigation alluded to, and was published in  
the Philadelphia newspapers of that period.  
It is requested that any information which  
may be obtained relative to the subject, be  
communicated to the Editor of the National  
Gazette.

COMMUNICATION.  
We the Subscribers do cheerfully bear tes-  
timony to the happy improvement in the uter-  
ance of speech of Edward Middlecott, son of  
Mrs. Eliza Middlecott, living in Washing-  
ton Square, brought about by the care and at-  
tention of Mr. and Mrs. Chapman, in the U.  
S. States Institution, for the cure of Impediments  
of speech, at No. 107 Pine Street.

The youth was afflicted with stammering to a degree  
that rendered him incapable of delivering a  
message, without giving pain to the hearer,  
but is now restored to his perfect speech,  
without any appearance of stammering.  
Philadelphia, Oct. 10th, 1826.

ROBERT PULLIN.  
GEORGE WEAVER.  
ELIZA MIDDLECOTT,  
his Mother.

COMMUNICATION.  
I was induced by an advertisement of the  
awards of the Franklin Institute, to examine  
a Stone invented by Joseph Page, and made  
by John Harned, in Market near Tenth street,  
(where it can be seen), and do consider it the  
best constructed and useful article for culi-  
nary purposes I ever saw, its oven surpasses  
conception—and it is but justice to the inven-  
tor, the maker, and the public, that it should  
be made known by every patron of the

USEFUL ARTS.

About a quarter before ten o'clock last  
Monday night, a fire broke out in the bake  
house back of No. 91 South Wharves, below  
Pine street, which, with the store-house at-  
tached, was destroyed. The fire is said to  
have originated in accident. A boy who was  
employed in packing crackers in bags, went  
to sleep, and the flames of the candle caught  
some combustibles in the room. The build-  
ings were the property of Mr. Lewis Steiner,  
and were not insured there was insurance  
on the stock, which belonged to Mr. Lord.

An accident occurred during the fire through  
the incautiousness of some of the persons who  
were engaged in emptying the store house of  
its contents. One of them threw a fifty-six  
weight from the second story into the narrow  
alley adjoining, in which there were at the  
time a number of men and boys. It grazed  
the shoulder of a middle aged gentleman, and  
struck a young man with so much force that  
he was carried away senseless.

A marble slab from Hunter's quarry, was  
brought in front of Congress Hall, Chesnut  
street, to be placed upon the steps in front of  
that extensive and beautiful building. The  
stone measured seventeen feet in length, eight  
feet in width, nine inches in thickness, and  
weighs eight tons. It will be covered by a  
handsome portico.

A female, the wife of a respectable weaver,  
in the vicinity of Centre square, cut her  
throat on Monday morning. She was found  
dead in the cellar to get some butter for break-  
fast, where she perpetrated the dreadful deed.  
A physician was immediately called in, but  
he entertained no hopes of her recovery, and  
she died shortly afterwards. The cause of  
this violent termination of life is said to have  
been constitutional melancholy.

#### Academy of the Fine Arts.

STRANGERS, as well as our returning citizens, will  
be highly gratified by a visit to the Academy of the Fine  
Arts. Most of the best Pictures sent to the late Exhibi-  
tion still remain; others are substituted, generally of  
equal merit. Many new pictures are now put up; and  
the whole condition of the rooms is rich and brilliant  
with works of art in various departments.

LITERARY.  
A new novel, entitled "Yorktown," by  
a citizen of Massachusetts, is announced as be-  
ing in the press and shortly to be published,  
by Wells and Lilly, of Boston. Report speaks  
favorably of its merit.

The poem delivered by Mr. James G.  
Brooks, at the late anniversary of Phi Beta  
Kappa Society at Yale College, has just issued  
from the press. It contains passages of beau-  
tiful poetry, and is written with all that flow  
and facility which have distinguished his former  
productions.

Professor Rafinesque, of Washington, is  
about to publish a work, in two volumes, en-  
titled "Outlines of a General History of Amer-  
ica," embracing the physical state and revolu-  
tions of this continent, the physical and  
moral state of the American nations; their  
monuments, language, annals, traditions, re-  
cords and documents, to be illustrated with  
plates. Such a work, ably executed, will be  
a very valuable addition to our literature.

A new magazine, entitled the "Potomac  
Magazine," devoted to Literature and Sci-  
ence, is about to be established in Washing-  
ton city.

Messrs. Hoffman & Sons of New York, have  
advertised a large sale of theological and  
classical works, principally of the sixteenth  
and seventeenth centuries, to be held on the  
3d of November. The books are said to be in  
excellent order.

A series of notes on the early history and  
settlement of Kentucky, has appeared in the  
Kentucky Gazette. Seven numbers have been  
published, and they will be continued. The  
future historian will be indebted to the labors  
of this writer, for his essays contain much in-  
teresting matter, and indicate patient and dili-  
gent research.

Among the new books announced in the  
Edinburgh journals is a "History of the Pro-  
gress and Suppression of the Reformation in  
Italy and Spain, during the sixteenth century."  
By Thomas MacLure, D. D. Mr. MacLure is the  
author of the Life of Knox, &c.

Another novel by the author of the Annals  
of the Parish was about to appear.

The Agents of the Saturday Evening Post  
are invited to receive Subscriptions for the  
OUTLINES of a GENERAL HISTORY of AMERICA,  
of which the prospectus is published in this  
paper. They will be allowed a tenth copy  
gratis for each nine which they may dispose  
of, or a commission of 10 per cent, at their  
option, upon any number of Subscribers pro-  
cured and for which they may be responsible.

The attention of the Public, particularly  
that of the amateurs in the Fine Arts, is called  
to a Medal recently executed and published  
by Mr. M. F. of John Quincy Adams,  
President of the United States. Mr. F.'s  
omniscience and excellence in his profession, as  
Engraver and Die Sinker, has long been  
known to a portion of the American Public;  
he having, at different periods, executed,  
agreeably to vote of Congress, several hono-  
rary medals, for our victorious Officers: the  
Adams Medal is said to be at least an equal, if  
not a superior effort of his genius. Mr. F.  
has also located himself in our city, having  
erected a handsome establishment in Chesnut  
street, a few doors west of Broad street, for  
the purposes of his profession, where we an-  
ticipate he will meet with support and  
encouragement commensurate with his talents  
and industry.

Letters of Justice.—A distinguished literary  
and scientific gentleman in Scotland, being  
impressed with the belief that he has obtain-  
ed possession of a clue, which may lead to the  
discovery of the real author of the Letters of  
Justice, is very desirous to obtain a copy of a  
letter which will remain in the water, while  
the others will remain on the surface, &c. It  
will look with the one set of eyes in one di-  
rection, while the other's attention is direct-

ed another way. It was caught at Staten  
Island, and is a great natural curiosity.

Mrs. Eliza Menden of Charleston, formerly  
Miss Crasley of Baltimore, has published pro-  
grams for a second edition of her miscellane-  
ous poems. An application of this kind from a  
meritorious lady cannot fail to meet with suc-  
cess, and to come into vogue. Their ap-  
pearing in the form of a book, will patronize  
the project on account of her sex, and the gentle-  
man for the same reason.

The U. S. frigate Constellation, M. T. Wool-  
sey, Commander, sailed from Pensacola, on the  
24th inst. on a cruise. The officers and  
crew all well. She had smooth water and a  
gentle wind, and went over the bar in hand-  
some style and perfect safety, and, although it  
was an ordinary tide which had fallen con-  
siderably, she had plenty of water, and never  
touched.

John Robinson, a mulatto, aged seventeen  
years, was tried last week at South Kingston,  
R. I. for burglary. He was found guilty, and  
sentenced to death, and ordered to be execut-  
ed on the 24th of November next. The Provi-  
dence American says, "that this is the first  
capital punishment decreed by a court in that  
State for a number of years, and we are in-  
formed that there has not been more than one  
public execution in the state since the year  
1800."

As the Steam boat Washington was nearing  
New York on Sunday, a man was discovered  
swimming in the East River. He hailed the  
boat and was taken on board. He was a  
cripple, and stated that in company with five  
other persons he was fishing in a small boat  
which was run down by a sloop and all but  
himself drowned.

A large flock of Saxony sheep was sold at  
Brighton, (Mass.) on Tuesday week. The  
sales, we are told by the Boston Statesman,  
were well attended, and of the strangers pre-  
sent, was the Hon. Mr. Rose, Member of Con-  
gress from New York; who is an extensive ag-  
riculturalist, residing on the border of the  
beautiful Seneca Lake.

The emigration of the people to the west-  
ward, is great. Perhaps more have gone on  
than were ever known to pass at so early a  
period of the season. The road to Missouri  
farther west, we are told, is thronged. The  
march of adventurers is to the west, and from  
the increasing press and bustle that way, it  
will not be long before the settlement will  
extend to the Pacific Ocean.

A woman, supposed to be named Abigail  
Carter, died in Rahway, N. J. suddenly on  
Monday the 2d inst.—She was about the coun-  
try sowing flax. According to the petition  
she presented, she was of fair character. She  
said she was from the township of Hopewell,  
Hudson county, N. J. In her possession was  
found \$3225. She was decently interred in the  
Presbyterian burying ground in Rahway.

Indian Lands.—The Buffalo Patriot states,  
that the lands recently purchased of the In-  
dians, amounting in all to about 80,000 acres,  
will be opened for sale as soon as the arrange-  
ments with the Indians will permit. The small  
reservations of the Genesee river are presum-  
ed to be equal in point of soil to any in the  
Genesee country; and about 67,000 acres  
from the Buffalo and Tonawanda reservations  
are said to be of excellent quality by any in  
the state.

British and Foreign Bible Society.—The  
Glasgow papers, received by the late arrivals,  
give the names of nine or ten auxiliary soci-  
eties, which have dissolved their connection  
with the British and Foreign Bible Society,  
and sent their funds to the Edinburgh Bible  
Society. They state, as a reason for their  
proceedings, that they are dissatisfied with  
the conduct of the London committee, in per-  
mitting the Apocrypha to be circulated in  
connection with the Holy Scriptures.

The elegant lace dress which obtained a  
premium of ten dollars at Pawtucket, N. H.,  
was purchased by the President of the United  
States when he visited the Lace School, at  
Newport. He stated that he made the pur-  
chase for the purpose of showing the work in  
Washington.

In the municipal court of Boston, William  
W. Clapp, the Editor of the Evening Gazette,  
was tried for advertising Providence lottery  
tickets, contrary to a law of the state pro-  
hibiting the advertising of tickets in lot-  
teries not authorized by the commonwealth.  
The jury returned a general verdict of guilty.  
The defendant moved an arrest of judgment  
on the ground of a defective indictment.

The general assembly of Vermont convened  
at Montpelier on Thursday last



1-24





How wretchedly should we feel that we in  
gine any of our innocent attempts at produ-  
ing merriment should operate to the preju-  
ce of our poor grinders. Again we must refo-  
Teeth are not to be traded with. *Ed. has*  
talking of the Weekly Messenger, we u

Philadelphia, Oct. 14, 1896. Proprietors  
JOHN MCCLLOUD, Master, No. 40 Market street  
keeps constantly on hand, a large and general assortment  
of

Price of tickets five dollars, shares in proportion.  
 Oct. 24-11

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**BENJ. RICHARDSON**, File manufacturer & Cut  
 No. 77 S. Second St. Gallery, of every description  
 grounds, polished and repaired in the best manner  
 short notice.

**DAVID CLARK**, Book Binder and Paper Ruler, No. 178 Market street, 3d story—Blank Books ruled any pattern, and bound in the handsomest manner.

**PAPER HANGINGS AND BORDERS**  
of the latest fashion. Also for sale, elegant French Borders and patterns for Fire Borders, imported this Spring all of which will be sold on moderate terms.  
Careful Paper-hangers are employed.  
Country Merchants supplied on liberal terms.  
April 1-11

**Votes**  
 \$4 per  
 \$3 00  
 \$1.05



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